

Report Title:
Reflection Paper
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Introduction

This paper is about my time in the semester practicing spiritual disciplines, studying about spiritual authority, and deliverance ministry. Each area is discussed including some details that were impactful in my life and my studies. The major sections in this paper are Spiritual Disciplines Reflection, Spiritual Authority Development Plan, Deliverance Ministry Reflections, Deliverance Ministry Start-Up and Conclusion.

Spiritual Disciples Reflection

In one of my meditations, the passage of Luke 7:1-10, regarding the story about the Centurion with great faith, stuck out. As I reflected back in my past ministry, work, and life, I couldn't help but understand where this Centurion got his faith in the authority he received. I often found myself in leadership positions. When I got into those positions, I immediately tried to meet up with my supervisor to understand their vision and plan for the ministry or department. It allowed me to understand what they wanted to happen and place myself in the same mindset as them. Knowing their vision allowed me to direct my actions and decisions towards the goal that they had in mind.

I often received much support from my supervisors, and I was able to have the freedom that I needed to enact the plans I've developed, which were in line with their goal. As I looked back in the passage, I connected it to how I treat positions of leadership that I had received in the past and now. I was able to have a similar mindset as the Centurion in the passage. At the start of those ministry and work, I often do well.

I noticed, however, that as time progresses, I tended to leave behind or neglect to meet with my supervisors. When I stepped away to look back on the current status of the ministry or work, I saw areas where I've drifted from the vision and the goal that they had set. This

should've been an indicator in the gauge of my life that I needed to immediately seek my supervisor to realign myself to their vision and goal.

Then, I reflected on why I wasn't able to act accordingly. I realized that due to my fear of failure and rejection, I couldn't seek their counsel without first trying to identify possible solutions to the problem. In the household I grew up in, it was ingrained in me that anything imperfect needed to be worked on. And due to the nature of life, nothing was or is ever perfect. Mistakes were never welcome.

So, I was left in the mindset that if there was no solution provided to a problem that was present, the problem shouldn't be brought up yet. Seeking counsel or advice was for people who weren't smart and wise enough to figure it out themselves. This was often tied to the mindset of becoming the best and trust in what God has already given me, instead of looking to and asking God to intervene in those moments in life where I was in desperate need of His help. It was interesting to see that when I looked back, the work that I do often falls apart or fails because of the fear of failure and rejection. The one thing that I avoided always comes back around because of the ingrained mindset of perfection and not making mistakes.

Spiritual Authority Developmental Plan

Personally, I don't think I have that much authority that has been developed yet. During this semester, I find myself understanding that I need to develop further in intimacy with Christ to develop more spiritual authority. I know that spiritual authority gets developed in the same way as the world does. A close and intimate relationship with the one in power and with power.

As a result, I need to regularly and constantly meet with Jesus so that I can know the desires of his heart. I must be mindful of him and his ways so that I can do what he wants me to do in my personal life, ministry, work, and other aspects of my life. I need to do this when

things are going great and when things are not. I can voice my concerns to him, and he can guide my path as I continue to do his will.

It is in meditation, prayer, fasting, and worship that I am able to meet with Jesus. Meditation helps me see new perspectives in the goal he has in his mind. It recently has been the discipline that God uses to meet with me. It helps me discern the mind of God and see where I can improve, change, or put extra effort in.

Prayer is an instrument of communication that I can use to voice my concerns and petitions to God. I need to make this discipline the primary discipline in my life. I know, I don't spend enough time in prayer. Due to the busyness of my schedule, it almost becomes secondary. This needs to be the first thing I plan in my schedule for the day. Without this, I neglect the time that I'm supposed to be using to meet with Jesus.

Fasting during this semester was both difficult and fruitful. I initially started on a workday, but it formed unexpected trials. The days got tiring and it was hard to work on meditating due to the length of the day. I had to switch the day to a weekend, so that I could immerse more spiritually. Towards the end of the semester, I tried a longer fast of seven days, up until the day for deliverance. It really was great for being sensitive to the Holy Spirit and his ways to communicate.

I realized that the more I try to do a lot when implementing new spiritual disciplines, the more likely I fail to continue and be disciplined in it. To develop my Spiritual Authority, I plan to take small steps so that I can stick to it. After the deliverance, I became more sensitive to how the Holy Spirit communicates. It's almost as if I am praying without ceasing. It seems so much easier now to communicate with him now. I will meditate on passages day and night that the Spirit points me towards.

I go through an absolute fast for 24 hours in the beginning of every month. I've just used that time and discipline to seek God's will for that upcoming month. The weeklong fast I did before the deliverance was quite helpful. I was able to lean more on the Holy Spirit and it was (and currently is) a great experience knowing that his presence is on me. Therefore, I will now schedule a one week fast without solid food every three months. If I am to continue developing authority, this must become a regular part of my year. It really will allow me to not rely on my own strength, but to trust Him for strength and guidance for what is coming next in my life.

Deliverance Ministry Reflections

Although I grew up in the Philippines, where we were more inclined to believe that spiritual beings exist, I wasn't able to experience a ministry of deliverance. I heard of one incident or story from my brother, when we were young, that there was a manifestation in one of the church camps that he had attended. I couldn't remember the exact details of his story, but it might have been both a manifestation of the Holy Spirit and/or other demonic spirits. I don't recall him saying that there was a deliverance that occurred.

The next story I heard was from a Filipino Pastor that I had back in Texas. I remembered him saying that he had participated in a deliverance/exorcism before. There really wasn't much of a methodology that he explained. But from how he described what they did (him with some pastor friends) it was more of a power-on-power deliverance.

While I had interviewed my mother, she had mentioned that in the past she had those symptoms of sexual dreams or sleep paralysis. However, sometime around two years ago, they had suddenly stopped. I asked her what happened during the time it stopped, and she didn't really know. Maybe she had gone through the Truth Encounter methodology. I won't really

know until I get to test her if she wants to go through it. I feel like she will hesitate to do it, because she responded with some fear when I told her to tell me if they come back.

The very first time I went through deliverance, the only thing that came up was a spirit of rejection that didn't get to be completely cast out. I think, during that time, I didn't really have quite a bit of self-awareness and the person doing the deliverance didn't have much spiritual authority. After the session, I knew that some had stayed. The last image I saw in my head was a little guy hanging on an edge of a cliff with bindings on his body connected to a lot more spirits. This was the beginning of my self-discovery.

So far, the most effective has been the Deliverance method of Dr. Rob Reimer. After the deliverance, I know that I was free. I was fully aware of the Holy Spirit and He has not dropped his communication with me. I am filled with joy when I get responses from him. I am constantly filled with the love and acceptance from the Father. I ask him questions and I get answers. Sometimes the answers are clear; sometimes they aren't due to the nature of the question. The result of this deliverance session is truly God ordained.

Deliverance Ministry Start-Up

I currently don't have a ministry that I am leading. I am, however, interning with the Candidate Recruitment and Development (CRD) Team of the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA) at the National Office. I am assisting the Representatives for Nyack College and Alliance Theological Seminary with the candidates and recruits. If I am to do something with the Deliverance Ministry, it would be during the one-on-one sessions with the candidates. It's the perfect opportunity to get prospective recruits to be delivered before going into ministry.

It is already one of my tasks to get to know the candidates and hear their story. I get to ask private questions that can help them uncover some of the hurts and pains from their past. I

help them prepare for the accreditation process for become a worker in the C&MA. I meet with them about once to twice a month to catch up with their life, work, ministry, and application.

This is going to be the area in which I get to help them get free.

There needs to be some preparation before the session. It probably is going to be a great idea to go through the main principles of Soul Care with the candidates throughout the one-on-one meetings. For me, I need to be courageous and direct in asking the tough questions about their life. I also need to prepare and memorize the deliverance test and method in Soul Care.

Meditating in the deliverance passages will help set my mind to doing kingdom work. Prayer will be the primary means for me to communicate assistance from the Holy Spirit. I must fast prior to the session. I will also gather a team of people who may have had experience doing deliverance or has participated in some. I will definitely need some people gifted in discernment to be in this team. I will seek guidance from professors and mentors who may have more insight in this ministry. Preparation will be a key figure in this kingdom work.

I know that this is going to be a hard task. But I know that this is what the Holy Spirit wants me to do. I feel the love and compassion that he has for the candidates. It is going to truly bring glory to the kingdom when, not if, they get free to set more people free.

Conclusion

I've learned a multitude of things this semester. Not just about the theological parts, but also in self-awareness, practical ministry, and Spiritual Authority. I do believe that God is calling me to do kingdom work and help set people free. I am amazed at how wonderfully the Holy Spirit has been trying to communicate with me. It is my prayer that many more people would get to experience him in a new and mighty way. This class definitely helped in helping me reach a new level of intimacy with Jesus.

Bibliography

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